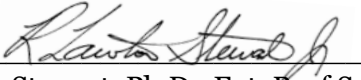




2021-22 Georgia HERD Program

July 20, 2021

From: 
Lawton Stewart, Ph.D., Ext. Beef Specialist


Jason Duggin, Ext. Beef Specialist

Enclosed are the rules, and entry form for the 2021-22 Georgia Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development (HERD) programs. **Please carefully read over this letter as well as the rules. A copy of this letter and the rules can also be found on our website: ugabeef.com/herd**

Program Objectives:

1. To educate and serve the beef industry in Georgia.
2. To demonstrate feeding and health programs that result in replacement heifers reaching target weights required for successful breeding performance.
3. To provide a method of evaluating heifers including performance, reproductive traits, and disposition.
4. To develop heifers which are source identified and genetically verified.
5. To demonstrate the benefits of cooperative efforts involving cattle producers, animal health professionals, the Georgia Cattlemen's Association, the UGA Animal and Dairy Science Department, the UGA Diagnostic Lab & College of Veterinary Medicine, and Georgia County Extension Agents.

Reminder:

- The HERD Committee will continue to implement genomic testing on all heifers accepted into the program. This will proceed as follows:
 - All commercial heifers will be genomically tested using the Neogen Igenity Beef test. DNA samples will be collected and submitted by the Test Station upon delivery. Results will be published in a supplement for sale day.
 - Registered heifers are to be DNA tested for genomic enhanced EPD's by their respective breed association. It is encouraged to have this data submitted prior to delivery. If you need assistance, please contact the Test Station. Genomic enhanced EPD's will be published in a supplement for sale day.
- Tifton will evaluate heifers born September – November of 2020, Calhoun will evaluate December, 2020 – February, 2021 heifers. Our AI sire will be G A R Sure Fire. Heifers related to Sure Fire will be AI'd to Baldrige Marksman D274. Both stations will synchronize the heifers and breed once AI, followed by at least 45 days with our clean-up bulls. If you wish to specify a different AI sire, you may do so, but you must furnish the semen at the time of heifer delivery.
- Heifers must be permanently identified with a readable tattoo or brand prior to delivery. If heifer(s) has missing or illegible tattoos and have to be re-tattooed

upon arrival, the consignor will be charged \$25 per head for each heifer requiring a tattoo.

Important Dates:

- **Tifton Bull Test Entry Deadline – September 1st**
- **Tifton HERD Program Entry Deadline - September 1st**
- **Calhoun HERD Program Entry Deadline – November 1st**